The author uses a lot of figurative language. This lesson plan is based around finding the figurative language in the following given chapters. The students will identify the type of figurative language being used and then explain what the figurative language literally means.

Below are examples of the kinds of figurative language that is often used in the book. The lesson should begin with the teacher explaining the following types of figurative language. The explanations and examples below could be used to study and refer to for the worksheets below. The worksheets consist of quotes from Maggot Moon that are examples of figurative language. The explanations of the figurative language should happen before the should happen before the students start reading the book. Students should be instructed to look for figurative language as they read the book. When the students complete reading the book they should be given the worksheets to be filled out.

**Figurative Language**

**Simile**

A simile compares two things using the words “like” and “as.” Examples include:

* busy as a bee
* clean as a whistle
* brave as a lion
* stand out like a sore thumb
* as easy as shooting fish in a barrel
* as dry as a bone
* as funny as a barrel of monkeys
* they fought like cats and dogs
* like watching grass grow

**Metaphor**

When you use a metaphor, you make a statement that doesn’t make sense literally, like “time is a thief.” It only makes sense when the similarities between the two things become apparent or someone understands the connection.

Examples include:

* the world is my oyster
* you are a couch potato
* time is money
* he has a heart of stone
* America is a melting pot
* you are my sunshine

**Personification**

Personification gives human characteristics to inanimate objects, animals, or ideas. This can really affect the way the reader imagines things. This is used in children’s books, poetry, and fictional literature. Examples include:

* opportunity knocked on the door
* the sun greeted me this morning
* the sky was full of dancing stars
* the vines wove their fingers together to form a braid
* the radio stopped singing and stared at me
* the sun played hide and seek with the clouds

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Figurative Language Worksheet for Maggot Moon

Directions: Read the following quotes from Maggot Moon. Decide what type of figurative language is being used in the quote. You may chose from metaphor, simile or personification. Then write the literal meaning for the figurative language. The first one has been done for you.

\*\*Bonus\*\* Find another example of figurative language in the book. Identify the type of figurative language and then write the literal meaning.

Chapter 25 “Doubt is a great worm in a crispy, red apple”

Type: Metaphor

Literal meaning: Doubt can can make something that seems really nice into something awful.

Chapter 32 “Her words were worms that buried themselves into your worried mind, to rot all thoughts of freedom.”

Type:

LIteral meaning:

Chapter 35 “ You stand out like a green sky above a blue field”

Type:

Literal meaning:

Chapter 41 “they were only stuck together with the glue of dead men’s bones”

Type:

Literal meaning:

Chapter 55 :”once you are rubbed out, you never existed”

Type:

Literal meaning:

Chapter 60 “We waited and waited until night pricked the old sun’s balloon”

Type:

Literal meaning:

Chapter 68 “up to that moment my legs had been river reeds which threatened to collapse under me”

Type:

Literal meaning:

Chapter 68 “the sight of this git put the bull between my teeth good and proper”

Type: Personification

Literal meaning: .

Chapter 68 It was not hard to see that the leather-coat man was a kettle of liquid fury about to reach boiling point.

Type: Personification

Literal meaning:

Chapter 69 “Today he is a silver fox with a cunning tail”

Type:

Literal meaning:

Chapter 72 “ Gramps was shaking as if an earthquake was erupting from his tummy button”

Type:

Literal meaning:

Chapter 87 “ He coughs. Not a good sound. Too deep, too full of coffins”

Type:

Literal meaning:

\*\*Bonus

Chapter??

Type:

Literal meaning:

Answer Key

Chapter 25 “Doubt is a great worm in a crispy, red apple”

Type: Metaphor

Literal meaning: Doubt can can make something that seems really nice into something awful.

Chapter 32 “Her words were worms that buried themselves into your worried mind, to rot all thoughts of freedom.”

Type: Metaphor

LIteral meaning: Her words were the cause of the worry and loss of hope of freedom.

Chapter 35 “ You stand out like a green sky above a blue field”

Type: Simile

Literal meaning: Your differences are very obvious and you don’t fit in.

Chapter 41 “they were only stuck together with the glue of dead men’s bones”

Type: Metaphor

Literal meaning: Their bond is very weak.

Chapter 55 :”once you are rubbed out, you never existed”

Type: Metaphor

Literal meaning: When you are gone, there is no record you ever existed.

Chapter 60 “We waited and waited until night pricked the old sun’s balloon”

Type: Metaphor

Literal meaning: We waited until the sun went down.

Chapter 68 “up to that moment my legs had been river reeds which threatened to collapse under me”

Type: Personification

Literal meaning: My legs felt weak and wobbly.

Chapter 68 “the sight of this git put the bull between my teeth good and proper”

Type: Personification

Literal meaning: This person made me very angry.

Chapter 68 It was not hard to see that the leather-coat man was a kettle of liquid fury about to reach boiling point.

Type: Personification

Literal meaning: He was very angry.

Chapter 69 “Today he is a silver fox with a cunning tail”

Type: Simile or Personification?

Literal meaning: He is very clever.

Chapter 72 “ Gramps was shaking as if an earthquake was erupting from his tummy button”

Type: Simile

Literal: He was so angry, he was shaking.

Chapter 87 “ He coughs. Not a good sound. Too deep, too full of coffins”

Type: Metaphor

Literal: His cough makes him sound deathly ill.